



Rev. James Elise Jones

December 5, 1927 - July 10, 2021

Rev. James E. (Jimmy) Jones was born to the late Wesley and Calisha Gerald Jones on December 5, 1927 in the Hilly Branch area of Robeson County. He went home to be with the Lord on July 10, 2021 at UNC Southeastern Medical Center, Lumberton, NC.

The youngest of 10 children, James experienced hardship early in his life, having his mother pass away at the age of 13. Yet, he was able to graduate from primary school at the age of 16. After graduation, James moved to Baltimore, MD to live with his brothers where he found work at Bethlehem Steel Company.

James served one day in the Army but was subsequently discharged because he was not yet of legal age to join. Although WWII ended in 1945, James was drafted into the Regular Army but opted to serve in the Army Air Corps from February 26, 1946 until February 25, 1949. James served with the Tuskegee Airmen under the command of General B. O. Davis, the first black officer to graduate from West Point Military Academy. The Tuskegee Airmen were a group of primarily African American military pilots and airmen who fought in World War II (Active 1940-1948). They formed the 332nd Expeditionary Operations Group and the 447th Bombardment Group of the US Army Air Corps (later designated US Army Air Forces). During his time in the military, he attended basic training at Sheppard Field Air

Base, Wichita Falls, TX. He would then go on to attend airplane and engine mechanic general training on the B32 at Keesler Field, Biloxi, MS, followed by specialized training on the P47 at Chanute Field, Rantoul, Ill. Upon successful completion of advance training, he was assigned to Lockbourne Air Force Base, Columbus, OH. There he rose to the rank of Sergeant serving as a crew chief in the 100th fighter squadron single engine of the 302nd fighter group, working on the famed P47. His awards and decorations include Good Conduct Medal and WWII Victory Medal.

Upon discharge from the service, James attended North Carolina A&T for a short time, where he studied industrial arts and also worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad as a boilermaker helper. In less than a year, James returned to Baltimore where he would start his life as an entrepreneur, after attending and graduating from Apex Barber School.

(Records & Things) with two locations in Lumberton & St. Pauls, owner of a seafood fish market and restaurant, co-owner of several barbershops in Catonsville and Lumberton, founder/owner of JJ Insurance Agency, and founder/distributor of the Tri-County Record Newspaper. In addition to his entrepreneurial endeavors, James worked for Alamac Knitting Factory, served as a counselor for Youth Corps, and finally retired from Liberty Life Insurance in 1999. James served on numerous boards and community organizations, including, but not limited to: Robeson County Counseling Center, Lumber River Council of Government - Board of Directors, Center for Community Action, Lumberton Citizen Police Academy - Chairman, and Hilly Branch School Alumni and Lumber River Baptist Association and Lumberton Ministerial Alliance. He was also an Honorary Past Master of the Golden Leaf Masonic Lodge #124.

Among his many professional accomplishments, James was most proud of earning his Red Coat symbolizing his service and contributions to the

Tuskegee Airmen. He was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, which is the highest civilian award presented by the U.S. Congress to an individual or group for an outstanding deed or act of service to the security, prosperity, and national interest of the United States. The medal was awarded to pilots, bombardiers, navigators, and mechanics of the Tuskegee Airmen, and other military or civilian men and women who supported ground duties. Awarded March 29, 2007, the medal recognized their “unique military record that inspired revolutionary reform in the Armed Forces.

Preceding him in death were his parents: his wife, Ernestine H. Jones, his son, James Jones, nine siblings and three grandchildren: Te'Sean Dorsey, Ashley Williams, and Quantae Jones.

James leaves to cherish his loving memories and legacy, his children: Evelyn C. Berry, Laurel, MD., Carlester Jones, Baltimore, MD., Cheryl Williams, Gwynn Oak, MD, Christine Jones-McCowan (Timothy), Bowie, MD, Darren (Karen) Dorsey, Knightdale, NC, Marcus Dorsey, Walnut Cove, NC, Charles (Toni) Jones, Phoenix, AZ, Courtney Jones, Princeton, NJ, Christopher Jones, Phoenix, AZ/ Lumberton, and Fonda Jones of the home, 25 grandchildren: (Torryn Jones and Kaitlyn Williams of the home), 19 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren, two goddaughters, Rethea McCall, and Ernestine Forrest, father figure to Brandi Williams and Kisha London, six special friends: Wixie Stephens, J.W. Jacobs, Jimmy Adams, Rev. Thomas Jones, Rev. Jerome Billups, and Rev. Joseph M. Dunham and a host of nieces, nephews, family and many friends.

Professional Service entrusted to Colvin Funeral Home, Lumberton, NC.

Cemetery Details

Hilly Branch Church Cemetery

Lumberton, NC 28358

Previous Events

Viewing

JUL 24. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Robeson Community College
5160 Fayetteville Road
Lumberton, NC 28358

Service

JUL 24. 12:00 PM (ET)

Robeson Community College
5160 Fayetteville Road
Lumberton, NC 28358

Tribute Wall

GB

“ He was a great God fearing man. God's blessings upon his many family members and friends. I'll see you in the rapture.

G C Bryan - March 16, 2022 at 10:44 AM

VA

“ To Evelyn Berry and the entire Jones family, you all are in my heart and prayers. Your dad was awesome! I thank God I had the pleasure of meeting him and getting to know the family. If you need me, I'm here. Love you all. Venessa Ellington Alston

Venessa Alston - July 24, 2021 at 04:14 PM

CM

“ On behalf of Bishop Artkyne Love, Evangelist Carolyn Love and City Of Praise Ministries in Rowland, NC we offer our deepest sympathy and condolences to our dear sister, Evangelist Fonda Jones and her beloved family in the passing of her father. Rest assure that we are keeping you in our thoughts and continued prayers.

City Of Praise Ministries - July 24, 2021 at 03:42 PM



“ Marie Wright sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev. James Elise Jones



Marie Wright - July 24, 2021 at 01:21 PM



“ HEAVEN SMILES AS THIS ANGEL HAS COME HOME. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU HAVE SHARED TO HELP ON THIS JOURNEY CALL LIFE. GOD BLESS YOUR FAMILY, AND I WILL MISS SEEING YOU.

Marie Wright - July 24, 2021 at 01:20 PM



“ In fond memory of Rev Jones, our condolences and prayers for the family
The Yuille Family
Virginia

Linda Yuille - July 24, 2021 at 10:56 AM



“ On behalf of Bishop Arkyne Love, Evangelist Carolyn Love and the City Of Praise Ministries of Rowland, NC we offer our deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of our dear sister, Evangelist Fonda Jones. Rest assure that we are keeping you and family in our continued prayers.

City Of Praise Ministries - July 23, 2021 at 06:42 PM



“ Sending prayers and condolences.



Angielena R Walker - July 23, 2021 at 02:03 PM

PM

“ To Evangelist Fonda Jones and family please accept mine and my family condolences on the loss of your dear Father. I am praying for you and with you during these difficult times. If I can be of any assistances please don't hesitate to reach out I am just a phone call away. God bless each and everyone of you

Petronia Mcbride - July 19, 2021 at 10:08 PM

BR

“ On behalf of Bishop James W. and First Lady Brenda Brooks and the Floyd's Temple #1 UHC, we extend sincere condolences to the family and loved ones of Rev. James Jones. May God bless and comfort you during your time of bereavement. Such a great man of God and role model.

Brenda - July 16, 2021 at 09:15 PM

KA

“ RIP Mr Jimmy. The Cooper n Addison families.



Kenneth Addison - July 15, 2021 at 11:10 AM

DF

A great man lived. To the family of Rev. Jimmy Jones. We take this time to express our heart felt condolences, during your hour of sorrow. Rev. Jones will surely be missed. Please know that we will be praying for your strength. The Faulk family, Ernest Jean, & Erica...

Deloris Faulk - July 24, 2021 at 12:06 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rev. James Elise Jones.*



July 14, 2021 at 10:36 PM



“ *Sending prayers and comfort. I so appreciated Jimmie and Tina providing some of very first work skills and ethics. I learned so much working with them in their store and traveling to gospel concerts. They were teachers and I was glad to be a student.*



Theresa Johnson - July 14, 2021 at 01:37 PM



“ *Jannis Brown lit a candle in memory of Rev. James Elise Jones*



Jannis Brown - July 14, 2021 at 11:10 AM



“ *Belinda Humphrey lit a candle in memory of Rev. James Elise Jones*



Belinda Humphrey - July 14, 2021 at 10:13 AM

DD

“ Our condolences 🌸 going out to the families
🙏🙏🙏



demetrice dixon - July 13, 2021 at 09:11 PM

PB

“ Patricia Blue lit a candle in memory of Rev.
James Elise Jones



Patricia Blue - July 13, 2021 at 08:28 PM

KA

“ Rip Mr Jimmy. The Cooper n Addison families.



Kenneth Addison - July 13, 2021 at 12:09 PM

MA

“ Mary sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev.
James Elise Jones



mary - July 13, 2021 at 11:57 AM

KY

“ I’m sorry to hear about the passing of Rev. Jones.



Kent Young - July 12, 2021 at 05:47 PM

PP

“ Pastor David And Carolyn Powell sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev. James Elise Jones



Pastor David and Carolyn Powell - July 12, 2021 at 03:58 PM

SW

“ I would like to extend my heartfelt condolences at this time to the family and friends of Rev. James Jones. May the love and mercy of our Lord help to ease the pain of your loss.
Sincerely,

Sheriff Burnis Wilkins - July 12, 2021 at 03:06 PM

PL

“ Pateicua Lewis lit a candle in memory of Rev. James Elise Jones



Pateicua lewis - July 12, 2021 at 12:16 PM